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Report Name: Trade Related Summary of Nigeria's National Agri-Food Systems Investment Plan

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Report Highlights:

This report summarizes trade related components of Nigeria's National Agri-Food Systems Investment Plan for 2026 – 2027. The Plan represents the federal government's strategy to integrate the country's agricultural-related production, nutrition, environmental, employment, and climate systems, and link them with international trade and development initiatives. This report also describes one specific component of the Plan, the National Livestock Growth Acceleration Strategy, and implications for U.S. livestock and related product exporters. In 2025, Nigeria imported \$50 million in feed and related products and \$5 million in live animals.

Background

The government of Nigeria's [National Agri-Food Systems Investment Plan \(NASIP\) for 2026-2027](#) outlines the federal government's strategy to integrate all aspects of the agriculture sector, including production, nutrition, the environment, employment, and climate into one plan. It is guided by overarching national priorities, including the Nigeria Agenda 2050, the National Development Plan (2021 – 2025), the National Agricultural Technology and Innovation Policy (2022 – 2027), the Food Systems Transformation Pathway, and Nigeria's Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement. The 2026 – 2027 NASIP is the third plan following the National Agriculture Investment Plan I (2011 – 2014) and National Agriculture Investment Plan II (2017 – 2020).

The Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security developed the NASIP in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Livestock Development, the Federal Ministry of Marine and Blue Economy, the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, the Federal Ministry of Environment, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, state-level government offices, and non-governmental organizations.

Summary of NASIP 2026 – 2027 Trade Related Components and Initiatives

Import Reduction

NASIP includes the strategic goal to "Achieve zero hunger and improved food security through increased domestic production and reduced food import dependency" (p. 65). It also mentioned that "Nigeria can significantly reduce its reliance on food imports, which pose economic and food security risks." The Plan noted that "time-bound" trade restrictions for commodities like rice should be matched with simultaneous investments in production and processing capacity (p. 100). In the poultry sector, the Plan acknowledged that "despite [the] government's ban on poultry imports to protect local producers, challenges such as high feed prices and limited access to affordable inputs have persisted" (p. 18).

Export Promotion

Program 2 of NASIP "Expansion of Crop, Livestock and Fisheries Production and Value Chain and Export Promotion" describes promoting the production and processing of food and export commodity value chains. It includes activities to rehabilitate 150,000 hectares of cocoa and cashew plantations, train farmers on improved productivity practices and certification, and facilitate traceability and access to export markets (pp. 77, 84). According to the NASIP, Nigeria is the world's fourth-largest cocoa producer and third-largest exporter after Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, with export volumes increasing from 200,000 tons in 2015 to 329,000 tons in 2023 (p. 15). According to the Plan, in 2022, Nigeria exported 315,677 tons of raw cashew nuts, generating \$252 million, though most cashew nuts were exported raw (p. 16). The Plan noted that Nigeria exported approximately 3.3 million head of cattle in 2022, generating \$283 million in revenue (p. 17). NASIP aimed to promote "macroeconomic stability through increased agric-exports revenue" to address currency depreciation by generating foreign exchange (p. 63).

Regional Trade Integration

The NASIP document discusses several regional trade initiatives, including the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to enhance competitiveness and regional trade integration (pp. 26, 42). Specifically for fisheries, trade policies may be designed to promote fish product exports while aligning with AfCFTA. The Plan notes support for the Economic Community of West African States Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP) which to implement a “regional trade regime” to facilitate free movement of agricultural goods within the region and “adapting trade policies with external partners” (p. 46). The Plan also notes that the Kampala Declaration commits Nigeria to “tripling intra-African agrifood trade” (p. 49). The NASIP includes sectoral export goals and policy adjustments to facilitate trade, improve market infrastructure, and regulate quality to expand domestic and export markets (pp. 100, 111, 139).

National Livestock Growth Acceleration Strategy 2025 - 2035

The NASIP includes information on the National Livestock Growth Acceleration Strategy 2025 – 2035 (NL-GAS). NL-GAS’ two overarching goals are to increase livestock herd size and economic value using a “Bred in Nigeria” branding. The strategy included 10 pillars:

1. Modernize the multiple animal value chains, boost productivity, improve breeds, and livestock processing.
2. Reduce animal disease burden and zoonoses in Nigeria by 15 percent annually in the next five years.
3. Ensure quality and affordable nutrition resources for improving livestock productivity.
4. Development of water resources to support large scale animal production.
5. Partner with financial services and insurance providers to launch products and services.
6. Design and implement interventions for effective prevention, mitigation and resolution of [livestock related] conflicts.
7. Improve livestock production facilities in the country’s grazing reserves and other production facilities.
8. Design and promote the implementation of a functional extension service.
9. Increase women and youth participation in livestock production in Nigeria by 10 percent annually.
10. Develop and implement a comprehensive National Livestock Information and Management System to track, analyze, and report livestock data.

Implications for U.S. Exporters

In 2024, [Nigeria created the Federal Ministry of Livestock Development](#) to unlock potential in the country’s vast but underdeveloped livestock sector. In 2025, the Federal Ministry of Livestock Development [established the Livestock Sector Donor Working Group](#) to strengthen coordination between the government, donors, and the private sector. While no public documents exist outlining specific implementation plans for the NL-GAS, according to Ministry statements and discussions with the Office of Agricultural Affairs in Lagos, there may be opportunities for U.S. livestock and related

product exporters to assist with NL-GAS implementation. The Ministry is interested in promoting cattle, poultry, and other animal breeding initiatives with Nigerian producers, especially for dual purpose (i.e., broiler and layer; meat and milk output) breeds that would perform well in Nigeria's climate. The NL-GAS also seeks to improve domestic breeds by utilizing artificial insemination and other advanced breeding methods. Finally, the Ministry is interested in working with U.S. seed exporters, who could advise Nigerian fodder producers on pasture seed varieties that would do well in Nigeria's more arid central and northern regions.

Attachments:

No Attachments.